



Tailgate Hamfest Wrap-up and plans for the D-STAR repeater.

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Remembering Silent Key Vic Berko, KA9LTV

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Fall Brings Improvement on the Higher Bands

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Allen County HamNews

September 2011
Volume 12
Issue 9

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

ARISSAT-1 SIGNAL RECEIVED AT TAILGATE HAMFEST

The ARISSat-1 passed over northeast Indiana the same evening as the tailgate hamfest. The amateur radio satellite was launched from the International Space Station on August 3rd. The group was able to hear the satellite on 145.950 MHz from 7:54 to 8:04.

The satellite's message was a female's voice sending a greeting in English. It's been reported that one of the batteries has begun to die prematurely which will limit the life of the satellite.



Slow scan TV photo from ARISSat-1 taken September 2.

RE IW2AGJ 2011 09 02 15.13Z



Also this month

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Internet Home Pages

Fort Wayne Radio Club:	http://www.FWRC.info/
	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/
ACARTS:	http://www.acarts.com
Fort Wayne DX Association:	http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/
ARES:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/
IN_PACKET Yahoo Group:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN 46885), the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851), and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at ab9zd at arrl.net. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is the first day of the month.

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Judging by the amount of sneezing that I am doing lately, it must be close to Labor Day! Seems whenever this Holiday rolls around, the amount of pollen in the air that I am allergic to quadruples. Oh well, to look on the bright side of things, this is a good time of year to be in the Amateur Radio Service. This last August, we held our annual TGHF (that's Tail Gate Ham Fest) at the church parking lot. The attendance was great with about 70 people. As promised, the weather was great.

At the TGHF, we held a brief business meeting to proceed with the vote for the D-STAR system, which will be our first big joint venture with the ACARTS club. The vote was 51 in favor, and 9 apposed, with another 4 e-mail "votes" received in favor as well. The system, which will be installed at the Masonic Lodge building in downtown Fort Wayne, as already been ordered and received, and is being checked out at the QTH of K9OMA, Jim Pliett, who is also making the antenna mount. ACARTS has donated the 70cm antenna, and Joel Esslinger, KB9OZE, is working on the software side.

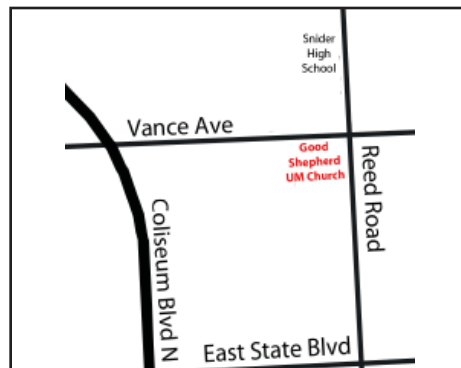
Our presentation for the September meeting will be on Severe Weather and will be presented by a representative from the National Weather Service. This will not conflict with the ACARTS meeting, which will be on SKYWARN procedures. Please plan on attending both of these interesting presentations, as well as first nominations for club offices. The weather theme is appropriate given the destructive nature of Hurricane Irene this last weekend. When I called my cousin in Waterbury, Connecticut, he was without power, his basement was full of water, and his apple tree was laying sideways in his front yard. It should be noted that the tree was originally in his side yard!!

With the Findlay ham fest coming up on September 11th, and the Ride to Remember the same day, there is the pos-

sibility that the FoxHunt may be moved. Stay tuned to our web site and the local nets for this news. The 18th is the most likely date for the Fox Hunt. Also, coming up in October, on the 15th we are looking at doing the JOTA, or Jamboree On The Air, by joining with the Anthony Wayne Area Council's jamboree at the Old Fort downtown. More details to follow!

With Fall weather upon us now, we have a lot of Amateur Radio activities and events coming down the pike, so get your antenna systems whipped into shape for the winter, and we'll see how much of the ionosphere that we can get excited!

Best Regards, Steve, W9SAN



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Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

September 16: Severe Weather and will be presented by a representative from the National Weather Service.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.

TAILGATE HAMFEST PHOTOS



State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with a heavy heart that I assumed the presidency of ACARTS with the passing of Vic Berko, KA9LTV, on July 31, 2011. Vic had been a member of ACARTS for many years and had been president since 2000. Vic was a dedicated officer and had not missed a meeting or a club function during his term as president until his battle with cancer began a little over a year ago. He will be missed.



cancies for some time. Become involved, attend the meetings and functions, become an officer or manager. Help make ACARTS what you want it to be.

Feel free to e-mail me or call me on the phone with your thoughts and ideas.

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

ACARTS PICNIC PHOTOS

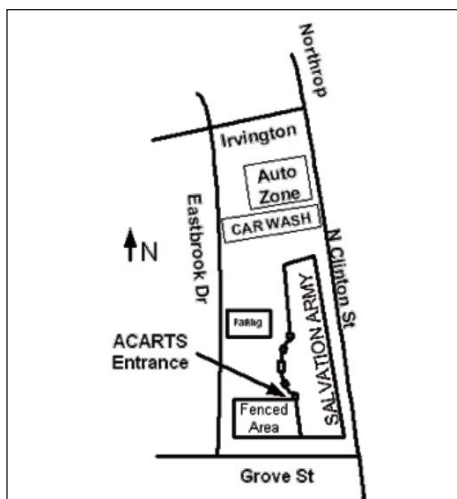
As for my background, I was born and raised in the eastern suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio. I came to Indiana to attend Tri-State College in Angola and received a BSEE degree. I moved to Fort Wayne in 1964 and have been here ever since. I have been a ham for 53 years. I got my Novice license in June, 1958, upgraded to General Class in 1959, and later upgraded to Advanced and then Extra Class. After college, I was in the commercial two-way radio sales and service business. In 1977, I sold out of that business and started a camera repair business and operated it until I retired in 2007.

ACARTS is your club, not a club run by a board of directors that you can join. Let me know what you want out of the club. Better yet, become involved. Volunteer to run for an officer or manager position in the club and be on the board of directors yourself. ACARTS has had two board members pass away within the past year and there have been several other va-



September 20: The September ACARTS program will be a presentation by Jay Farlow, W9LW, on IMO SKYWARN and the GRLevel3 radar program.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at the Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN.



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w9lkh at comcast.net

Vice President

Open

Secretary

Open

Treasurer

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n9ads at junio.com

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Open

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Communications

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Station Manager

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Fundraising Manager:

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IN MEMORIAM

VIC BERKO, KA9LTV

ACARTS President Vic Berko passed away July 31 after a long battle with cancer. The obituary from Fort Wayne Newspapers follows.

VICTOR BERKO, 63, passed away Sunday, July 31, 2011, at Heritage Park Health Care Center in Fort Wayne. Born in Ulm, Germany, he graduated from Central High School and Indiana University. He worked in Electronic Sales at Walmart for several years. He was a very active member at St. Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church and was an avid HAMM radio operator. Surviving are his sister, Ludmila Roebel of Fort Wayne; brother, George (Marilyn) Berko of Tumwater, Wash.; nephew, Bryce (Liz) Roebel of Lafayette; and great-niece, Ava Rose Roebel. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mykolaj and Anna Berko. Service is 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2011 at St. Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church, 3535 Crescent Ave. with calling starting at 9:30 a.m. Fr. Andrew Jarmus officiating. Burial in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne. Memorials may be made to the St. Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church. Fr. Andrew Jarmus officiating. Burial in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne. Memorials may be made to the St. Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church.



AUGUST 2011 ACARTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH.

Dave stated that he was willing to become the trustee of the club license and that he had prepared the application form. The form was signed by Howard, N9ADS, as the responsible club officer other than the trustee.

Dave said that there were still a few items remaining in the old shack at WANE-TV as well as the window air conditioning unit. Arrangements were made with Howard, N9ADS, Jim, KB9IH, and Dave, W9LKH, to meet at WANE-TV on August 16, 2011, to remove the items.

Dave asked if anyone had any suggestions for the September program. Receiving no other ideas, he suggested contacting Jay, W9LW, to present a program on the Skywarn program and also on the GRLevel3 weather radar program.

Dave suggested changing the date of the November general meeting until after the Hamfest. The dates of the Hamfest usual fall between the board meeting and the general meeting so that the Hamfest wrap-up can be discussed at the general meeting. The board members in attendance agreed with the change.

Jim, KB9IH, said that he wanted to do more advertising for the Hamfest this year. The board had decided to discontinue sending complimentary tickets to area schools several months ago as the program had become too expensive for the few extra people it brought to the Hamfest.

Howard, N9ADS, suggested that ACARTS relinquish the 147.255 repeater pair to the Fort Wayne Radio Club for D-Star use. It was decided that ACARTS would give up the pair if FWRC desired it and the frequency coordination could be directly transferred to FWRC.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

FALL BRINGS IMPROVEMENT ON THE HIGHER BANDS

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

We should see a nice improvement in propagation on the higher bands (15-Meters, 12-Meters, and 10-Meters) this fall. There are two reasons for this: the first is the fact that Cycle 24 continues its ascent, and the second is the seasonal change in the composition of the atmosphere.

ing more and more radiation at EUV (extreme ultraviolet) wavelengths, which results in more and more ionization. Remember that our understanding of the ionosphere is statistical in nature, and the smoothed sunspot number (or smoothed 10.7 cm solar flux) is the parameter that provides the correlation between what the Sun is doing and what the ionosphere is doing.

The ratio of atomic oxygen to molecular nitrogen in the atmosphere also increases as we move into fall. Atomic oxygen is critical for electron production, whereas molecular nitrogen results in electron loss. With a higher O/N₂ ratio, there will be more ionization.

Both of these issues will result in higher MUFs (maximum useable frequencies) as we move from summer to fall. Figure 2 shows the monthly median MUF along the Fort Wayne to Germany path at 11:00 AM local time for summer, fall, and winter months.

Being monthly median values, the data in Figure 2 says on half the days of the month the actual MUF will be higher than the indicated value and on the other half of the days of the month the actual MUF will be lower than the indicated value. The lower and upper extremes of the MUF can be up to about 20% of the median value. Thus in September some days will have a MUF as high as 25 MHz and other days will have a MUF as low as 17 MHz. Unfortunately it's really tough to predict which specific days are the high-MUF days and which days are the low-MUF days.

In summary, get your higher frequency antennas in tip-top shape, listen on the higher bands, and take advantage of the improving conditions. It sure looks like 15-Meters will offer lots of DX opportunities as we move into fall, and we'll even see more consistent openings on 12-Meters and 10-Meters. Finally, note the October MUF – CQ Worldwide Phone should really be good!

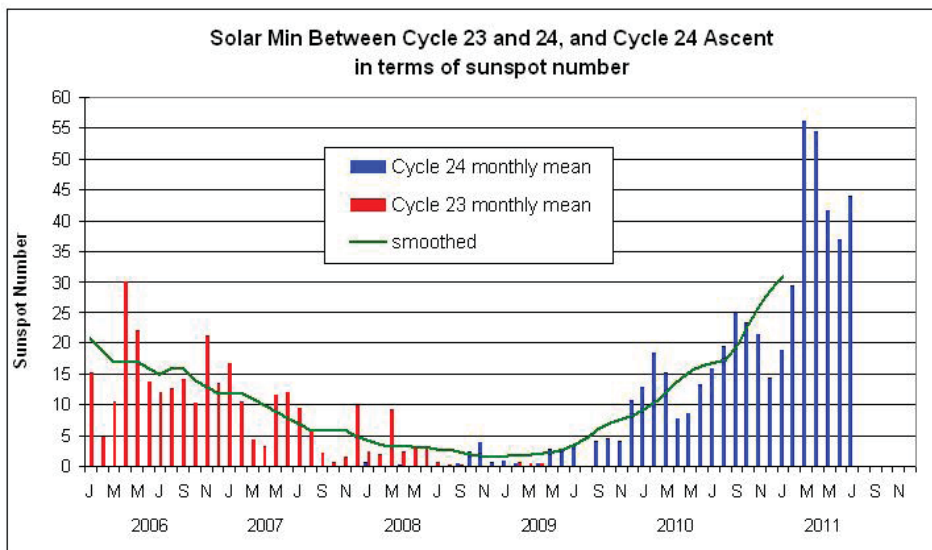
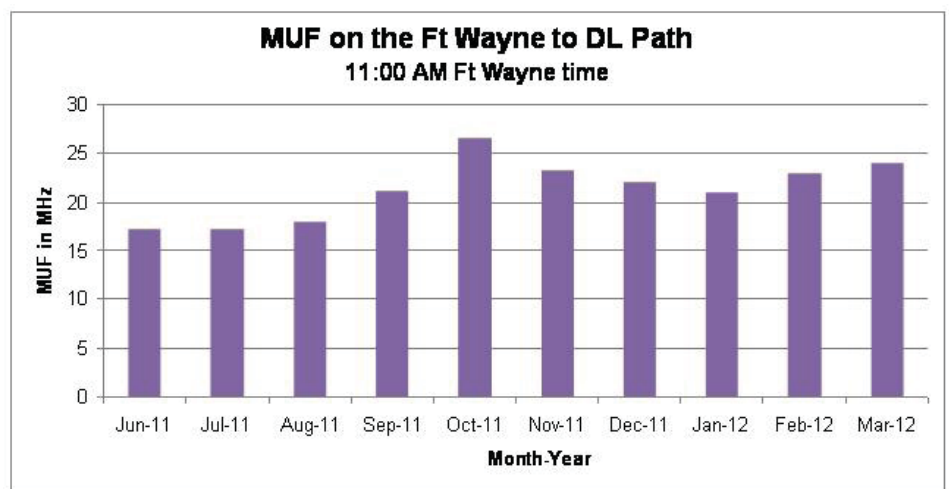


Figure 1 shows the descent of Cycle 23 and the ascent of Cycle 24. The red vertical bars are the monthly mean sunspot numbers from Cycle 23, and the blue vertical bars are the monthly mean sunspot numbers from Cycle 24. Solar scientists can tell whether they're old cycle sunspots or new cycle sunspots by their solar latitude and magnetic polarity. Note the overlap of Cycle 23 sunspots and Cycle 24 sunspots. This overlap was 16 months, and this is typical of solar cycles.

The green line in Figure 1 is the smoothed sunspot number (the official long-term measure of a solar cycle), and it continues to rise since hitting a minimum in December 2008. This means we're see-



If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at ab9zd@arrl.net.

INDIANA STATE CONVENTION (FORT WAYNE HAMFEST AND COMPUTER EXPO)

11/19/2011 and 11/20/2011
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
4000 Parnell Avenue
Fort Wayne, IN 46801
<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>
Talk-In: 146.880+

Public Contact: James Boyer, KB9IH
PO Box 10342 Fort Wayne, IN 46851
Phone: 260-579-2196
Email: chairman@fortwaynehamfest.com

GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION (FINDLAY HAMFEST)

09/11/2011
Hancock County Fairgrounds
1017 East Sandusky Street
Findlay, OH 45839
<http://www.w8ft.org>
Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club

Type: ARRL Convention
Talk-In: 147.15/.75
Public Contact: Bill Kelsey, N8ET
Phone: 419-423-5643
Email: n8et@woh.rr.com

MOBILE 2-METERS ON A BICYCLE

I strapped my 2-meter HT onto my bike to do some QSO's on the River Greenway. Made contact with KB9LOF on .94 but found out my signal was horizontal and weak. Had to lift the bike up on its rear wheel to hit the machine with vertical polarization. Also made QSO with W9BGJ and he said something about Carl WB9YBI and I should get together for more experi-

mentation on this subject. Would like to set up a 10-meter rig on my new cruiser bike.

73,

Michael Cumins, KC9HIU
KC9HIU@comcast.net



AT THE WORKBENCH: HEATHKIT RETURNS TO THE KIT BUSINESS

A notice on the Heathkit website announces that the venerable kit manufacturer, well-known to all Amateur Radio operators of a certain age, will be reentering the kit business in late August. The notice states, in part: "Heathkit will debut their new line of Do-it-Yourself kits for common around-the-house items. The first kit will be a Garage Parking Assistant (GPA). The Garage Parking Assistant kit lets you build your own system that uses ultrasonic sound waves to locate your car as it enters the garage. The system signals to the driver using LED lights mounted on the wall when the car is detected and in the perfect spot for parking. Read more here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/heathkit-returns-to-the-kit-business>

Say Again?

"Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy."

Workers whom Edwin L. Drake tried to enlist to his project to drill for oil in 1859

THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES FOR THE AUGUST HUNT

The seventh Foxhunt of the 2011 season was held on Sunday afternoon, the 14th of August. The weather was essentially perfect with just a hint of rain.

The August hunters consisted of five groups including the team of Jim and Kim Machamer, KB9's DOS and DOT, Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagle, KC9MUT & KC9EZP, Mark Berke & Dave Spence, WA7NXI & KB9VTK, and single hunters Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN, and Dan Ward, W9WLW.

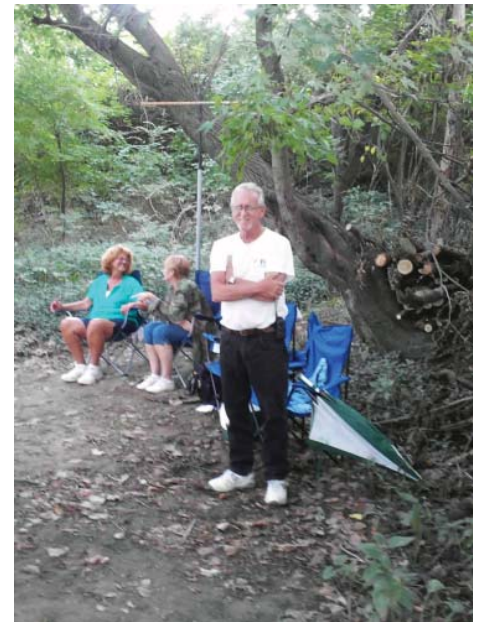
For this hunt the role of the fox was provided by Jim & Annie Pliett, K9OMA & KA9YYI, and Carole & Al Burke, WB9's RUS & SSE. This crew vividly remembered the hide spot perpetrated by Messrs. Ward, Gengnagle and Hooper last month (see the July Foxhunt Chronicles for the grizzly details) and were heard mumbling "What goes around comes around" and other unsavory comments not suitable for this publication. So Al Burke hired his evil twin brother Rufus (just retired from the Elbonian Department of Sneaky, Dirty Tricks) to develop a suitable hide spot for the August hunt.

Well, ol' Rufus had the Pliett / Burke crew set up their base camp on the east bank of the St. Joe River near Northside Drive and Glazier Ave. but he had them emplace the actual fox on the west bank



of the river between Dalgren Ave. and Dunnwood Drive. (Check it out of Google Map or Google Earth). It is necessary to climb a berm from Northside Dr. to be able to even see the base camp, and the base camp was located in amidst a copse of trees, so it was hard to see it even after crossing the berm. The original plan Rufus developed had the actual fox, a cross-band H/T, emplaced on the west bank of the river near the river bank. However the river bank is about 50' below the River Greenway that parallels Spy Run Ave and the Pliett / Burke team thought it might be a little dangerous for the hunters to get down to the river bank that day as it had been raining a little just before the hunt started. Hence they emplaced the fox in a tree branch just a few feet inside the foliage that separates the River Greenway from the west bank of the river.

Now, Rufus is a devious sort, and he planned that the hunters would initially assume that the fox was located somewhere along the River Greenway that parallels Spy Run Ave based upon initial DF readings taken on the base station transmitter. But once they determined that the base station transmitter was on the east side of the river they would converge on the Northside Dr. / Glazier Ave. locale and start hunting on foot in order to localize the base station. Once they localized the base station, we would start transmitting from the actual fox, as is standard practice. They would then start scouring the east bank of the river in a vain attempt to find the fox. After wasting time thrashing about the east bank they would eventually realize that the fox was actually on the west bank of the river, and after briefly considering murdering the Pliett's and Burke's and sinking their bodies in the river, would hoof it over to the River Greenway on the west bank and start hunting again. This of course was all designed to waste a lot of (the hunter's) time so that the 2½ hour time limit on fox-



hunts was exceeded and therefore the fox team would garner 1000 points while all the hunters would win only 200 points as per the foxhunt scoring rules. Pretty devious, eh?

Needless to say, this nefarious plan worked. Annie and Carole taunted the hunters for the first two fox transmissions using the mobile rig in Jim's van. Then Jim & Al used an HT into a yagi for follow on transmissions from the east bank hide spot. Interviews with several hunters indicated that they indeed thought the fox was somewhere along the River Greenway, on the west bank and wasted time over there, as planned, but then concluded the fox was on the east bank and thus went to the Northside Dr. location on the east bank. After localizing our base station site they then started beating up the east bank of the river looking for the fox, again as planned. Of course they eventually realized that "by gum, those SOB's have actually placed the fox on the west bank....##@&%*! them!" It was gratifying watching Charles scan the west bank of the river with a pair of binoculars trying to spot the actual fox.

FOX HUNT YEAR TO DATE POINTS

K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	WB9RUS	KC9TIK	AB9YB	KB9OS	KC9MUT	KC9EZP	AB9IZ	KB9VTK
3485.5	3485.5	3210.5	3210.5	525	525	525	4823.5	3385.5	863	450
W9SAN	W9LAN	ALEX	KB9DOS	KB9DOT	KC9CGN	WA7NXI	KA9AUQ	WB9BGJ	KB9ZQG	N9WLW
2499	1022.5	1476.5	4305	4305	2512.5	2968	1963	1497.5	1497.5	340

2011 INDIANA STATE PARKS ON THE AIR CONTEST

The hunters eventually drove back over to the west bank of the river and started hunting again. Woody Woodbury was first to find the actual fox followed by Mark Berke, Dave Spence, Dan Ward, Charles Ward, Fred Gengnagle, & Kim & Jim Machamer.

Rufus has left the country for locations unknown.

Scoring wise, nobody "found" the fox because the 2 ½ hour time limit was exceeded. However, the same thing occurred during the July hunt and it was decided to rescind the time limit during that hunt. So we decided to do the same for this hunt. Based upon this the following scores were tabulated for the August hunt:

KC9MUT / KC9EZP	477.5 points
KB9DOA / DOT	470.5 points
WA7NXI / KB9VXT	450 points
KC9CGN	382.5 points
W9WLW	340 points

The fox team garnered 735 points

This being the case, Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagle will take up the mantle of the fox for the September hunt. This will occur on Sunday, 11 September, starting at 1:30 pm. (That should allow any Findlay Hamfest go'ers time to get back to FWA for the start of the September ordeal).

Following the August hunt most everyone proceeded to Atz's for a well-deserved chow down (as usual). Good place, that Atz. Based upon some of the contorted looks on Charles's and Fred's face, the September hunt should be a doozy. (You know what they say about payback of a payback).

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

From <http://inpota.com/>

The Indiana Parks On The Air (INPOTA) announces the 1st. Annual "Indiana Parks on the Air: contest to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011, from the hours of noon to eight p.m. (EDT) (1600 UTC to 2400 UTC). This contest will operate in tandem with Ohio State Parks on the Air. Visit their web site at:

<http://parks.portcars.org/ospota/index.php>

For amateurs throughout the State of Indiana, this is your opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the 24 beautiful State Parks here in Indiana. Don't just make a day of it; spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts, you will find the parks are one of Indiana's greatest assets.

Find out more about the parks at:

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/>

This contest places a premium on working stations in the Indiana State Parks. This means it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Indiana stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 350 mile range. This is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the design and deployment of NVIS or short range antennas. You can find numerous designs on the Internet as well as in various Amateur Radio antenna manu-

als. Along with your operating skills, it will be a chance to showcase your antenna skills as well.

Individual and clubs can operate Indiana State Park stations. Non-park stations in Indiana as well as stations outside of Indiana can also participate.

Contacts can be made with CW, SSB, AM or digital on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters. (Digital includes PSK-31, RTTY, etc.)

So get to an Indiana State Park and get On The Air in September.

The Program is open to all radio amateurs, worldwide. There are no restrictions on who may activate a Park, although most Activators will live in the general area. Chasers and Short Wave Listeners may be in any State or Country.

Indiana Parks on the Air (INPOTA) is an awards program for radio amateurs and shortwave listeners that encourage portable operation in Indiana State Parks. INPOTA has been carefully designed to make participation possible for everyone. The Program will accept operation from Base, Portable, or Mobile stations. The program provides for participation by Activators who make QSOs from the Parks, and Chasers who make contact with the Activators and Short Wave Listeners.

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 7.

Photos of this month's of club events were provided by Al Burke, WB9SSE, Michael Cumins, KC9HIU, and Ken Helms, AB9ZD.

Say Again?

"Louis Pasteur's theory of germs is ridiculous fiction."

*Pierre Pachet
Professor of Physiology at Toulouse, 1872*

Foxhunt Chronicles

The following is the planned Foxhunting schedule for 2011:

September	09/11/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
October	10/02/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
November	11/06/11	1:30 pm	Sunday

CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are a few of the contests that will be held in the next few weeks. Please refer to the contest Web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Some of the places on-line with information on contest include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page: <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

WA7BNM Contest Calendar: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

ARRL's National Contest Journal calendar: <http://www.ncjweb.com/contestcal.php>

Contesting On-Line: <http://www.contesting.com/>

HF	Contest Title	Ph	CW	Dig	Exchange & Frequencies (MHz)	Logs Due
VHF+	Dates / Times				Sponsor's Web Site	
	ARRL September VHF QSO Party	X	X	X	Grid square	Oct 12
50+	Sep 10, 1800Z - Sep 12, 0259Z				www.arrl.org/contests	
3.5-14	North American Sprint		X		Call signs, serial, name, and state	7 days
	Sep 11, 0000Z - Sep 11, 0400Z				www.ncjweb.com	
	ARRL 10 GHz Cumulative Contest	X	X	X	6-character grid locator	Oct 19
10G+	Sep 17, 6 AM - Sep 18, 12 Mid				www.arrl.org/contests	
3.5-14	North American Sprint	X			Call signs, serial, name, and state	7 days
	Sep 18, 0000Z - Sep 18, 0400Z				www.ncjweb.com	
	ARRL EME Contest	X	X	X	Call signs, sig rpt, acknowledgement	Dec 20
2.3G+	Sep 24, 0000Z - Sep 25, 2400Z				www.arrl.org/contests	
3.5-14	North American RTTY Sprint			X	Both call signs, serial, QTH, name	7 days
	Oct 9, 0000Z - Oct 9, 0400Z				www.ncjweb.com	
1.8-28	School Club Roundup	X	X	X	RST, class and S/P/C	30 days
50+	Oct 17, 1300Z - Oct 21, 2359Z				www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup-scr	
1.8-28	Illinois QSO Party	X	X		RS(T) and IL county or S/P/C	Nov 17
50,144	Oct 16, 1700Z - Oct 17, 0100Z				www.w9awe.org	
1.8-28	W/VE Islands QSO Party	X	X	X	RS(T) and S/P/C or island designator	Nov 30
50	Oct 22, 1600Z - Oct 23, 2359Z				www.usislands.org	

D-STAR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM ICOM'S WEB PAGE

What does "D-STAR" stand for?

The D-STAR stands for Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio. It is an open standard digital communication protocol established by Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL).

What can I do with the D-STAR radio?

4.8kbps digital voice (DV) mode and 128kbps data * (DD) mode communications are available. When using DD mode with a PC and the D-STAR radio, high speed data communication is possible.

*DD mode is available with ID-1 only.

Can I send data with a voice transmission?

Yes, you can. In DV mode operation only, you can simultaneously send up to 950bps of data, such as call sign, short data message or GPS position with a voice transmission.

Can I make a call with foreign countries?

Yes, you can. The Internet gateway allows you to relay your call to a remote D-STAR repeater over the Internet. The D-STAR repeater call sign and IP address must be registered to the gateway server. Some restrictions may apply based on specific country regulations.

Can I use the D-STAR repeater without connecting to the Internet?

Yes, you can use a D-STAR repeaters a local repeater. You can also communicate with other D-STAR radios directly.

Can I receive a call only when the call is intended for me?

Yes, you can. the call sign squelch function opens the squelch only when you call sign is received.

How do I set a repeater call sign when I make a call to a desired station using a D-STAR repeater?

When you communicate with other D-STAR stations using a D-STAR repeater, it is necessary to set the repeater's call sign in RPT1/RPT2 as well as the desired station call sign and your own call sign.

Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS - and/or - ☐ FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____ Phone #: (_____) _____ - _____ Unlisted? ☐ Yes

Email address: _____ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$20.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year

Additional family members¹ ☐ \$6.00 / year

Student membership² ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership³ ☐ \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$20.00 / year

Family membership¹ ☐ \$30.00 / year

Student membership² ☐ \$5.00 / year

Associate membership³ ☐ \$20.00 / year

Mailed newsletter premium ☐ \$20.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. Unlicensed member

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS

PO Box 10342

Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Fort Wayne Radio Club.

PO Box 15127

Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send two checks to either club. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use

443.800 (+) General use

(For autopatch 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digirepeaters)

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.530 (s) W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice:

146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater

Node number 519521

444.875 (+) General use

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

Tri State Two Meter Net: meets daily at 7:00 p.m. on 147.015+

21 Repeater Group: Wed. at 7:30 p.m. on 147.150

Help and Swap Net: Mon. at 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

Daily Indiana Traffic Net: 3.910 @ 8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. local.

Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net: 3.535 @ 9:30 a.m. &

7:00 p.m. local times.

Miscellaneous Nets

Allen Co. ARES Training Net: Tue. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.94-

Emergency Preparedness Net: Thurs. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.88-

Huntington ARES: Sat. at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685-

Whitley Co. ARES: Wed. at 8:00 p.m. on 145.270

(Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sun. at 8:00 p.m. on 444.550+, 131.8 PL

"No-Name" Net: 8:30 pm Sunday and Wednesday nights. 1.965 MHz or cross band on the 146.91 repeater.

Little Red Barn Net: Weekdays @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz. Thursdays at 3826 kHz.

Northeast Indiana Packet Net: Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on 145.530 @ 1200 baud. We use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.

FWRC YL Net: Wed. 7:00 p.m. on 146.76-

FWRC 6 Meter Net: Tue. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 USB

6 Meter AM Net: Thurs. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 AM

FW Area Student Net: Wed. 9:00 p.m. on 146.91-

To:

Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
09/06/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
09/11/2011	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex
09/13/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
09/16/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
09/20/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
10/02/2011	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex
10/11/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
10/11/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
10/18/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
10/21/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC